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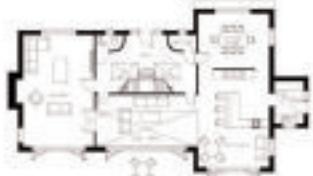
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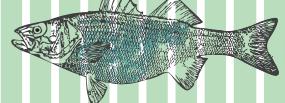


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Sat: 02.03 6.0m 15.24 6.0m
Sun: 03.36 5.8m 15.24 6.0m
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Review of 2013

January

■ SOUTHEND Airport was rated the best in Europe by easyJet's passengers.

More than 26,000 passengers were asked for their opinion when travelling through the region's newest airport and it resulted in a satisfaction score of 92 per cent.

The results beat scores from more than one hundred airports across Europe, including other airports in the region such as Luton, Gatwick and Stansted.

The survey was held across all European airports, with travellers asked to rate services like the check-in process, aircraft, punctuality, boarding procedures, overall satisfaction with the airport and friendliness of the easyJet crew.

The research showed that 95 per cent were satisfied with Southend Airport, 98 per cent were satisfied with the length of time at check-in and 100 per cent of passengers were satisfied with the efficiency of check-in staff.

■ Bad weather forced parents to take the day off of work to look after children whose schools were closed.

Only five schools in



HIGH FLYERS: EasyJet's Ian Chaplin books the Masters family in at Southend Airport, which was voted best for customer service



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March

■ SOUTHEND was put on a short-list of 11 urban centres to become UK 'City of Culture' 2017. Southend councillor for culture and tourism Derek Jarvis said there was so much to offer in Southend.

He said: "We feel we truly deserve to be City of Culture 2017. "The judging panel for our previous bid recommended Southend as a possible candidate for 2017, so we look forward to preparing an excellent submission."

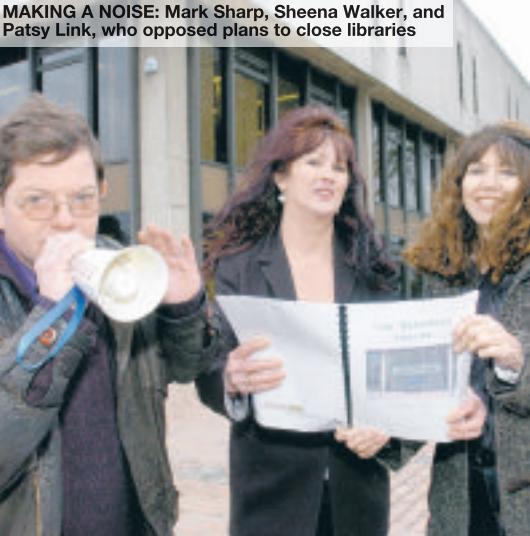
■ SOUTHEND council announced it could close five of the borough's libraries in a bid to save money.

The authority said it needed to save £378,000 from the library services as part of more than a £10million budget cut.

A public consultation was launched, with a final decision to be taken in September. The review also stated that Central library, in Victoria Avenue, should close when the new Forum library opens in town.

Mark Sharp, of Saxon King in Priory Park (SKIPP), said it was ironic the council was proposing to shut down libraries when it is also bidding for the 'City of Culture'. ■ The first batch of the world's

MAKING A NOISE: Mark Sharp, Sheena Walker, and Patsy Link, who opposed plans to close libraries



biggest robotic cranes arrived on London's doorstep.

The giant quay cranes are two-and-a-half times the height of Nelson's column and used to unload cargo from ships at the DP World London Gateway Port. But because there is no crane big enough to unload the 138-metre machines, engineers used an

ancient system of weights, pulleys, tracks and rollers – similar to that used by the ancient Egyptians to build the Great Pyramids – to slide the giant structures onto the dock. Weighing in at 2,000 tonnes, the machinery spent its mammoth three-month journey from China standing upright on the ship Zhen Hua 26.

February

fic management Mehmet Mazhar defended the amount of money being charged and claimed parking enforcement was just one way the authority delivered transport strategies in the town. He said: "It ensures that motorists increasingly comply with parking restrictions.

"It also ensures improved road safety, and helps keep traffic moving on the highway network so residents directly benefit from this."

■ THE 'Dare to Dip' event held by Havens Hospices was launched and was the first ice water swim along the shores of Southend.

The temperature of the water was between 3 and 8 degrees Centigrade, when the estuary is at its coldest.



FAB FEBRUARY: The Haven Hospice Darer to Dip event

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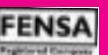
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Review of 2013

April

■ A CONSULTATION was launched regarding the future of remaining children's centres in Southend.

Funding for the centres was cut £224,000 by Southend Council from this year to just over £1.1 million in 2015.

Four centres had already been shut down in the borough through a wave of previous cuts but the new consultation proposed to merge and axe more.

■ A Southend pub was awarded the CAMRA Community Pub of the month. The campaign aimed to encourage pubs to organise and market a number of events with the hope it will increase trade.

John Murray, who runs the



AWARD: Phil Rottger and Victoria Howlden staff at The Old Trout Pub

Old Trout Tavern, in London Road, said it was mostly down to good customer service and

variety of ales on offer that had grabbed the award. The first initiative for the Business Improvement District (BID) was launched with the introduction of a team of street rangers.

The BID is a self governing area of town from Southend town centre to the seafront and was voted for by businesses in November in 2012.

■ The development of the new Southend United football stadium moved a step closer.

Southend Council agreed to the club's demand of reducing a payment to the town centre from £6.2 million to £3.5 million.

Council chiefs said club chairman Ron Martin has to pay £1 million up front before plans got under way.

May

■ IT was announced more than 700 people could be made redundant at Southend following the closure of Lloyd's Bank, at Essex House.

Lloyd's Trade Union said 689 permanent staff plus a further 174 temporary staff would be losing their jobs by the end of the year.

A further 75 members of telephone banking and fraud operations staff were set to move to offices based in Chelmsford.

A spokesperson from the bank the decision was a difficult one to make.

■ Southend YMCA announced it would open a free as early as September.



CLOSURES: Leigh Town Council leader Councillor Carole Mulroney outside Leigh delivery office

The Southend Community School, was conceived by the charity with 18 years of experience delivering services to vulnerable children in the town.

The school would deal with key stage four children who cannot attend mainstream school.

■ Council leaders hit out at the Royal Mail for closing five of its delivery offices in Southend and Castlepoint.

The postal firm had already shut down the Great Wakering delivery office in March, but announced further closures to Shoeburyness, Leigh, Canewdon and Rochford.

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■ Review of 2013



RADIO LAUNCH: Staff from the station launch the new broadcast

June

■ A NEW radio station went live from Southend this month that was broadcast across the county.

Adventure Radio, the base of Southend and Chelmsford Radio, which is owned by businessman Phillip Miller went live with Radio Essex.

Radio Essex is now being broadcast 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Presenter Dom Atkins said he hoped the switch on would see people view the radio station in a different light.

■ A new sculpture was unveiled at Southend airport.

The unveiling was held by Mark Francois minister for state defence personnel, welfare and veterans to coincide with Armed

Forces Week.

The installation called Searchlight Beacons, was created by sculptor John Atkin. John was personally funded by sculptor Henry Moore to study at the Royal College of Art and has followed in his footsteps by becoming a globally renowned artist.

July

■ ILLEGAL oyster pickers caught in Southend were forced to hand back a haul of 1,400 oysters that weighed 275kg.

Southend council's environmental health officers intercepted the men who had collected 11 large sacks of Pacific oysters without official safe authorisation.

The oyster pickers gave up their harvest after being warned of the consequences of not having the official papers. Council officers then returned the oysters to the Thames.

■ His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent re-named the iconic Southend Pier Cultural Centre, 'The Royal Pavilion'.

He unveiled the plaque bearing the building's new name on

■ A report commissioned by Fair Havens Hospice claimed the charity's main site in Chalkwell Avenue was no longer 'fit for purpose'.

The report was published by the hospice just weeks before a public inquiry into a new premises at Belton Way, Leigh.

Tuesday, July 16, after officially opening the new RNLI lifeboat house on Southend seafront meeting RNLI crew members and supporters, and sharing in a short dedication service there.

■ Wilko Johnson was immortalised in a sign outside a pub.

The former Dr Feelgood guitarist, 65, was a regular at the Railway Hotel, in Southend, gigging there as well as drinking there.

Now his face has been painted on the sign that hangs outside by local artist Jack Melville.

■ Record amounts of people attended the Village Green festival in Chalkwell Park.

Wilko Johnson headlined the festival that saw more than 32,000 people gather to soak in the day of music, art and entertainment.

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LEGEND: Wilko Johnson

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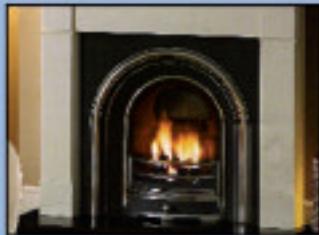
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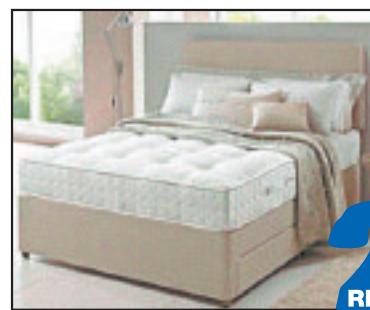


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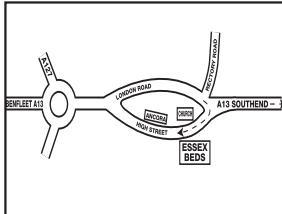
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Review of 2013



PROTEST: The Stand Up for Southend Libraries Campaign protesting last Saturday about library cuts



AWARD: Members of the council parks team and Councillor Derek Jarvis celebrate the award

August

■ ONE of the largest stores on Southend High Street celebrated its centenary with a trip down memory lane.

The Marks & Spencer shop marked its anniversary with a special three day event, giving customers and staff from the past and present the chance to celebrate the store's significant milestone.

■ Protesters took to the streets to oppose cuts to libraries in Southend. The Stand Up for Southend Libraries Campaign welcomed the recent announcements from Southend Council that libraries would not be forced to close because of a shortage of volunteers. However, they pointed out library services cannot afford to rely on volunteers in the first place.

They said what is needed to keep a decent level of professional staffing is to enable volunteers to bring their enthusiasm and community spirit into branches.

■ It was announced the 2014 air show would have more of a military theme to it to celebrate the centenary of the First World War.

Tom Curtis, organiser of the show

alongside John Delaney, said plans for the show were going well.

He said: "We've had a lot of help already from local businesses it shows that communities can pull together when they need to."

■ Four parks in Southend were

awarded the Green Flag Award. Chalkwell, Belfairs, Priory and Southchurch Parks each gained plaudits by the environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy.

The national awards recognised the UK's best parks and green spaces.

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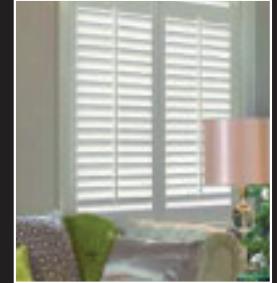
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Review of 2013

September

■ SOUTHPEND'S lifeboat service was the busiest coastal station in the UK this summer.

Statistics released by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution showed 15 stations on the east coast of England launched 319 rescue missions this summer.

Southend launched a total of 104. Last year the station only launched 80 rescues.

■ Wilko Johnson signed a limited-edition guitar to be auctioned to raise cash for teenage cancer sufferers.

The black Telecaster with a red scratchplate – created

Belfairs and Daws Heath Living Landscape, where Essex Wildlife Trust and Southend Council are working together to protect ancient woodland and its wildlife. The wood-clad building includes products from Belfairs itself.

■ The Shorelines Festival of literature was announced.

The three-day festival in Leigh was originally the idea of poet Lemn Sissay who had been to Chalkwell Hall, looked out over the Estuary and said it would be a good idea to hold a festival dedicated to the sea.



PULLING STRINGS:
Wilko signs one of the
limited-edition guitars

October

combines a joint public and academic library, a new home for the Focal Point Gallery and a lecture theatre that can seat 200 people.

It also boasts a public square with a big screen.

■ Southend councillors called for a second investigation into the erosion of the

town's foreshore.

The demand followed an Environment Agency commissioned report by Dr Andrew Bradbury over fears that dredging of the River Thames by port operator DP World was causing damage to the estuary.

The £6,000 report concluded there was no evidence of 'widespread erosion', and that mud flat movement was due to natural causes. The report was dismissed as 'nonsense' by Southend Council.

■ A PETITION opposed the proposed closure of Leigh Library.

Under plans to cut back services for libraries in the town only three of the six would be run by council staff, including the newly opened Forum.

The others would be run by volunteers and could be closed if no one comes forward to help. The petition was signed by 8,000 supporters of the Stand Up for Southend Libraries campaign.



NEW CHAPTER:
Author Martina Cole opened
The Forum

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What a difference a year makes!

It took exactly one year and one week for local slimmer Kelly Nichols to lose a staggering eight stone at her local Rosemary Conley Food & Fitness class!

Her instructor Mandy has been running classes for 17 years and offers a wide variety of choice including aerobics, circuits, and Kardy Interval- a 30 minute fitness programme run over six workouts combining high intensity bursts within normal aerobic activity. All classes are adapted to suit everyone, even if you've never exercised before. Mandy ensures you change your lifestyle, not just your eating habits.

Kelly joined her local class in Rayleigh on September 3, 2012, weighing a whopping 18 stone 8 lbs with a BMI of 44.6. By September 12, 2013, she weighed just 10 stone 7 lbs with a BMI of 25.3. She continues to go to class and now has a healthy BMI of 24.

Kelly, who can't believe how good it feels to have lost so much weight in just over a year, said: "Mandy has been such an inspiration, encouraging me and always there to support all of her slimmers. She has helped change my life for the better."

2014 is an even more exciting time for Mandy's classes as the whole company has just revealed a fresh rebrand with new members packs containing even more fabulous products to support your weight-loss journey. The new design really reflects how vibrant Mandy's classes are, and how much she has to offer.

"We are extremely excited about the company rebrand. We have worked closely with a third party company and undertaken a great deal of research to ensure the look and feel of the brand reflects the company as a whole, we are thrilled to reveal our brand new look," says Rosemary Conley CBE.

Rosemary Conley Food & Fitness is the only national slimming organisation in the UK to include a workout as well as dietary advice in all their classes.

Rosemary added: "We like to stay one step ahead of the latest fitness sensation by introducing new styles of exercise into our classes. Our aim is to make exercise fun and to encourage more people to take part."

For details of Rosemary Conley Food & Fitness Clubs in Rayleigh, Rochford, Eastwood and Southend call Mandy on 01268 770301 or email mandy.lee@rosemaryconleyclasses.com

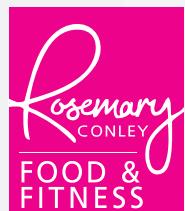


CHANGE: Kelly Nichols before and after

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The Freight House, Bradley Way, SS4 1BU
Tuesday 5:30 - 7:00 pm
Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm

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Salvation Army Hall, Frobisher Way, SS3 8UT
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90 Thorpedene Gardens, Shoeburyness, SS3 9JD
Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm

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Review of 2013

■ REPAIRS got underway after Essex was struck by a severe storm.

Debris on the road hindered ambulance crews during the early morning.

A tree fell on a car on Poynters Lane, in Shoeburyness, injuring a man in his 60s just before 7am. He was taken to Southend Hospital where his condition was not thought to be

November

life-threatening.

Between midnight and 4pm firefighters attended 214 incidents across the county, which included flooding, fallen power lines, fallen trees and traffic accidents.

Boats were blown off their moorings. A dredger at Southend had to be pulled from sandbanks.



ALL AT SEA: Dredger Arco Axe aground off Shoeburyness with tugs Svitzer Harty and Svitzer Mallaig in attendance after the storm

Picture by MARK CLEVELAND

GORGEOUS: Southend Diwali celebrations



■ Hundreds of people gathered at Queensway's Hindu Temple to celebrate the Diwali festival.

The New Year celebrations, at BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, included festivities, while raising funds for BBC's Children in Need.

■ It was announced Leigh and Kent Elms libraries will stay open after overwhelming public opposition to their closure.

They are now run by a mixture of paid staff and volunteers.

A council consultation saw thousands of people oppose the cost-cutting proposals.

Adam Jones, councillor for St Laurence Ward, and one of the founders of Friends of Kent Elms Library, said: "I'm really pleased with this result so the people that the two libraries serve are not missing out on the facilities. It could have been a case of a straight vote to close one or the other. I think the council have made the right choice as the two libraries have very different people using them."

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TREASURES: Christopher Langdon with the exhibit



December

■ A MOTHER and son lost their lives in a car fire. Catherine Mhlaba, 45, and her son, Bekithemba Ali, 16, were found in a black Vauxhall Vectra in Thorpe Avenue, Thorpe Bay, on December 3, at 5.30pm.

The deaths were investigated by detectives from the Kent and Essex Serious Crime Directorate as a possible suicide and murder.

Their investigation looked at the possibility Catherine Mhlaba was responsible for murdering her son and taking her own life by starting the fire.

Post-mortem examinations took place on Friday, December 6. The pathologist has recorded the cause of death as burning and inhalation through combustion.

■ Treasures buried with the Prince of Prittlewell more than 1,000 years ago went on show at Southend Museum.

Items dramatically unearthed by archaeologists at Priory Crescent, Southend, in 2003, went on display at Southend Museum, in Victoria Avenue, and will be on show until next March.

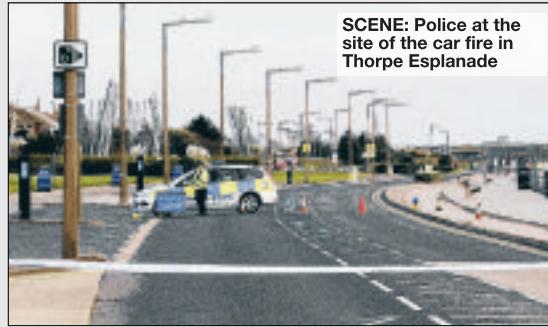
■ The Essex Police marine unit was scrapped in a bid to save the force £36million in three years.

The decision was announced by Chief Constable Stephen Kavanagh. He said no police officers would be made redundant as they would take on new roles 'providing specialist knowledge and expertise in dealing with marine incidents'.

The police vessels could be sold, although the force would still have access to boats – either directly owned or 'hired as necessary'.

■ Reports of abuse cases involving vulnerable adults in Southend rose by more than 450 per cent since 2007.

Figures showed 682 cases of abuse being reported to the social services compared to just 123 back in 2007. The council claimed the increase was due to better detection, not more people being abused.



SCENE: Police at the site of the car fire in Thorpe Esplanade

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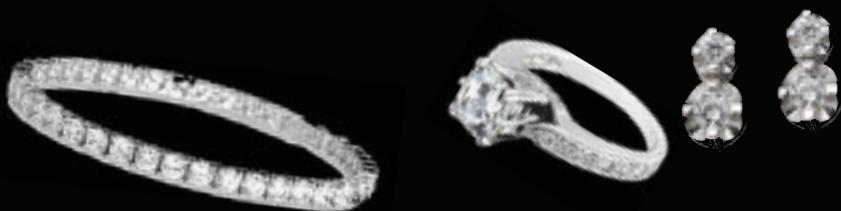
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what's on

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Saturday, January 4

■ Yugioh Club, you can play and trade yugioh, 120 Southend Road, St Catherine's Church Hall, Wickford, SS11 8EB, there are mini tournaments, Saturdays 1.30-4.20pm, 07985 671289.
 ■ Dad's and Kids Club, The Megacentre, Rayleigh, Saturdays 10.30am-1.30pm, free admission, games, activities, arts and crafts, for boys and girls 5-17 years with their fathers and father figures. 01268 779100.
 ■ Saturday Morning Club, St Michaels Church Hall, Leigh Road, every Saturday 10am-noon, entertainment provided by choirs, soloists, musicians, refreshments, admission free, Inter-Church Caring for the Elderly and Disabled. 01702 437863.
 ■ Meeting, Brush Strokes Art Group, Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh, every Saturday 9.15am-12.15pm, new members welcome. 01277 627043.
 ■ Different Strokes Exercise Class, St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, for those who have had a stroke, every Saturday 2.30pm. 01702 612809.
 ■ Jazz Workshop, Southend Jazz Co-op, St Michael's Church Hall (rear car park entrance), Leigh Road/Mount Avenue, Leigh, every Saturday 10am-1pm, £5 per session (concessions available).

Sunday, January 5

■ Jazz, Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz, Westcliff Hotel, Westcliff, 1pm. 01702 345247.
 ■ Sunday School, Get on Board (No Charge) at The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PO, every Sunday 11am-noon, age 3-10 years. 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.
 ■ Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation, Quaker Meeting House, Dudson Drive, Leigh, Sundays 10.30-

11.30am, followed by conversation over tea and biscuits, all welcome.

■ King's Church Southend at Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, every Sunday 10.30am-noon, a church where knowing Jesus makes all the difference. 01702 523639.
 ■ King's Church Tarposts at St Mary's Church Hall, High Road, Benfleet, every Sunday 10.30am-12.30pm, church but not as you know it. 01268 750520.
 ■ Greek Community of Southend and District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourious and St Pauls, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff, every Sunday 10am-noon. 01702 466435.
 ■ Sunday Club, TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley (children 3-12 years), Bible stories, craft, singing, every Sunday 10.45-11.45am, no charge, further details 01702 554904.
 ■ Mojo Friendship Club, Travellers Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, 11.30am, meet weekly, open to all, details Mo on 07757 658799.

Monday, January 6

■ Saturday Morning Club, Basildon, for the over 50's. Craft, 10am-12pm, Crocheting/Quilting 1-3pm, Art, 12.30-2.30pm. £2, 01268 465854.
 ■ Open Day, Shoebury Evangelical Church, West Road, 11am-4pm, exhibition of old photos and memorabilia, light refreshments served and paperback books and home-made cakes for sale, in conjunction with the West Road Fun Day.
 ■ Senior Citizens Club, Benfleet's No 1 Club, Richmond Hall, Benfleet, meets Mondays 1.30-3.30pm, entertainment, all welcome.
 ■ Southend Christian Counselling Service, do you need to talk, open to all, Mondays 5.30-7.30pm and Thursdays 2-7.30pm, further details call our 24 hour answer machine 01702 335252 and we will get back to you.
 ■ Over 50's Keep-fit Classes, Fryerns Community Centre, Monday afternoons, further details Pat 01268 770294.
 ■ Over 50's session, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, 12.30pm-2.30pm badminton, 2pm-4pm table tennis, £3.60, includes refreshments and use of equipment, details 01268 779100.
 ■ Duplicate Bridge, Balmoral Bridge Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh (opposite Thames Drive), Mondays 1.15pm-4.30pm and Tuesdays 7pm-10.30pm, call Vernon on 01702 343611 or Tony 01702 520993.
 ■ Short Mat Bowls Club in Hadleigh, new hall all mod/cons, 4 mats, Monday and Wednesday evenings welcomes new members, Canvey Short Mat Bowls Club, please ring Kevin on 01268 792433.
 ■ Short Mat Bowls, Monday/Tuesday afternoons in Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.
 ■ Indoor Short Mat Bowls, Prittlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, two mats available, with 5 day sessions, Monday to Friday, new players welcome, details Ray 01268 777666.
 ■ Indoor Bowls, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over 50s, Mondays 2-4pm, Tuesdays 2.15-4.45pm, Wednesdays 1.30-3.30pm. 01268 465854.
 ■ Whist, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over 50s, every Monday 10am-noon, details 01268 465854.
 ■ Senior Citizens Club, Ghyllgrove Centre, Butneys, every Monday 1.30-3.30pm, make friends, bingo, trips. 01268 293995.
 ■ Pensioners Stall, York Road Outdoor Market, Southend, every Monday and Thursday 8am-2pm.
 ■ Evening of Clairvoyance, Room 2, Paddocks, Long Road, Canvey, every Monday, doors open 7.30pm, admission £3, all profits donated to local charities, healing available after service 9pm, enquiries 01268 691922.

Tuesday, January 7

■ Weekly Craft Group, Oasis Coffee House, 189 Leigh Road, Leigh. 2.30-4pm. No charge or booking required. Emma 01702 471873.
 ■ Willows Park Short Mat Bowls Club require new or experienced players. We meet at the James Hornsby School, Laindon weekly. First session free call or text Alan on 07952 043456.
 ■ Social Dance, 1.45pm at Cedds Church, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff. Ballroom, Sequence, Latin. Friendly Group, all welcome 07767 406194.
 ■ Evening of Clairvoyance, St Cecilia's Christian Spiritualist Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue, Leigh, 7.15pm, £2, enquiries Anne 01702 556470.
 ■ Folk Music, The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, Royal British Legion, 7/9 Northview Drive, Westcliff, 'Steve Tilston', 8pm. 01702 715111.
 ■ Tea Dance, Ashdon Memorial Hall, Ashdon Road, Rochford, ballroom, Latin and sequence, every Tuesday 2-4pm. 01702 584575.
 ■ Health Walk, Salvation Army, Hadleigh, 10.30am, meet Castle Lane car park, Hadleigh, every Tuesday, details 01702 318121.
 ■ Scrabble Club, Hockley and Hawkwell 55+ Social Centre, Southend Road, behind the Library, Main Road, every Tuesday 6.30-10pm, first two visits free, also second Saturday & fourth Saturday of each month 2-5pm. 01702 205910.
 ■ Meeting, Ladies Fellowship at the Salvation Army in Hadleigh, Tuesdays 7.30pm, any age, good speakers, chatter nights, outings, meals out and summer walks, 50p per week or annual subscription, just come along or call 01702 551470.
 ■ Exercise Class for people with breathing difficulties, run by 'Breathe Easy' part of the British Lung Foundation, Ambleside Sports and Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, Tuesdays 12.45-2.30pm. 01702 610050/466827.
 ■ Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group meets every Tuesday and Friday, Faversham Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, wide range of activities and outings, Tuesdays 9.30am-2pm and Fridays 10am-2.30pm.
 ■ Evening of Clairvoyance, St Cecilia's Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue, Leigh, every Tuesday 7.15pm, £2, enquiries Anne 01702 556470.
 ■ Line Dancing, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s,

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Pair of Chinese Guanxu dishes
sold: £2700

Six unboxed Dinky toys
sold: £200

WWI medal group
sold: £720

If you can't make these dates, or have a large consignment, please call for a free appointment or home visit

www.staceyauction.com

tel: 01268 777122

what's on

every Tuesday and Thursday, details 01268 465854.

■ Chess, The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm. 01268 465854.

Wednesday, January 8

■ George Hurd Centre, Basildon, for the over 50's. Beading, 10am-12pm. £2, 01268 465854.

■ Singles Connection Friendship and Social Club, open evening at the Haywain for over 45s, Five Bells roundabout, Fobbing, 8.30pm, last Wednesday of every month. 07902 252758.

■ Barn Dance, Grand Ceilidh Club, Royal Naval Association, East Street, Southend, live music from Usual Suspects, 8.30pm. 01702 553622.

■ Indoor Carpet Bowls, St Edmunds Hall, Pantile Avenue, Southend, every Wednesday 2-4pm, further details contact Olive 01702 309280.

■ Played Bowls? Before? Come and try it at FS&S Club, Gardeners Close, Basildon, all weather green, free coaching given, regular club mornings, call Chris 01268 419831.

■ Breathing Exercise Group, run by Breathe Easy Basildon, Steeple View Memorial Hall, Wednesdays 1.2-3.00pm, if you have COPD or recently finished from Pulmonary rehabilitation call Honorie 01268 574390 for further details.

■ Leigh Singles Social Club, Bellini's, London Road, Leigh, for ages 45-65, every Wednesday 8pm. www.leighsingl.es.co.uk

■ Social Afternoon of Ballroom and Latin Dancing, Mill Hall, Rayleigh, every Wednesday 1.45-4.15pm, with Pat and Bob, 01702 544112.

■ Line Dancing Lessons, St Margaret's Church Hall, Lime Avenue, Leigh, every Wednesday 12.30-2.30pm, helping to raise funds for the church hall. 01268 281488.

■ Afternoon Tea Dance, Richmond Hall, High Road, Bentlefield, (entrance off Richmond Avenue), large free car park, every Wednesday 2-4.30pm, £4 per person, includes refreshments, strictly over 18's. 01268 752473.

■ Health Walk, Canvey Sea Wall, 10.30am, meet Leabworth car park, Canvey Island, every Wednesday, details 01702 318121.

■ Meeting, Al Anon, International Support Group for families, wives, husbands, friends of alcoholics and other addicts, 01268 544112.

1 Sutton Road, All Saints Church (Vicarage), Southchurch, Southend, Wednesdays 7.30pm, all welcome (non-denominational).

■ Pulse Drum Club, St David's Church Hall, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, every Wednesday 3.45pm-4.45pm, £3 per session. 01702 540111.

■ Activity sessions, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, (term time only), for children with special needs aged 5-18, free admission, siblings welcome, details 01268 779100.

■ Palace Writers Group, every Wednesday 7.30pm, alternating venues with the Palace and Cliffs Pavilion, open mic events and public readings planned, further details Emily 01702 390472.

■ Meeting, Roche Art Group, St Teresa's Church Hall, located behind the Church, 109 Ashingdon Road, Rochford, Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm, visitors welcome, further details Gill 01702 421737.

■ Advanced Computer Course, Pitsea Day Centre Over 50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, every Wednesday, 9.30-11.30am. 01268 465432.

■ Over 50s Session, The Megacentre, Rayleigh, Wednesdays and Thursdays 2-4pm, badminton and short mat bowls, session price £3.50 includes refreshments and use of equipment. 01268 779100.

■ Duplicate Bridge, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh, small friendly club, Wednesdays 7.30pm, further details Hilary 01702 712501.

■ Parent and Toddler Messy Play Group, Buttercup Club, Leigh Community Centre, Elm Road, Leigh, 9.30am and 11am, Wednesdays and Thursdays. 01702 712150.

Thursday, January 9

■ George Hurd Centre, Basildon, for the over 50's. Crafts 10am-12pm, Bridge 9.30am-12.30pm, Ceramics, 2-4pm. £2, 01268 465854.

■ Music, The Maritime Room, Cliffs Pavilion, Southend, 'Chris Standing', admission £15 on door, students £7 with valid photo card, doors open 8pm, music from 8.30-11pm.

■ Health Walk, Hockley Woods, 10.45am, car parking in Hockley Woods Car Park, every Thursday, details 01702 318121.

■ Jive classes every Thursday at Ambleside Social Club, Ambleside Drive, Southend, from 8pm, £5 (first night free), all ages welcome, no need to bring a partner. 07771 831507.

Friday, January 10

■ Buddies Over 50 Singles Club, Anchor Pub, Benfleet, 8.30pm every Thursday, meet new friends, varied social activities, further details Dee, 01268 560005 or Paula 01268 734436.

■ Meeting, Westcliff National Spiritualist Church, Hildaville Drive, Westcliff, every service we have mediums that demonstrate clairvoyance, Thursdays 7.30pm and Sundays 6.30pm.

■ Pottery, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Thursday 1.30-3.30pm. 01268 465854.

■ Coffee, Cake and Chat, WI Hall, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh, ladies and gentlemen, join us every Thursday 2pm, further details DI 07952 148636 or Linda 07504 114762.

■ Stalls in Outpatients Department, next to post box, Southend Hospital, books, bric-a-brac, hand knits etc, every Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm, all proceeds to Bosom Pals Appeal.

■ Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Elmsleigh Drive, Leigh, ballroom, Latin and sequence, every Thursday 2-4.15pm. 01702 216726.

■ Ceramics, The George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Thursday 2-4pm, details 01268 465854.

■ Why not try Carpet Bowls, The Salvation Army Hall, Elm Road, Leigh, Thursdays 2-4pm, 4, first 3 weeks free, details 01702 553545.

■ Short Mat Bowls, Willows Park, James Hornsby School, Leinster Road, Laindon, every Thursday 7.30pm, first 3 weeks free, details 01277 625027.

■ Clairvoyance, Shoebury Spiritual Centre, The Sandpiper Community Centre, Sandpiper Close, Shoebury, Thursdays 8-10pm, free healing, admission £3. 01702 476087.

■ Healing, The Cedars, Castle Road, Rayleigh, fully trained healer by Essex Healers Association, Thursdays 10-11.30am, all welcome.

■ Meeting, Billericay Baby Cafe, Community Church, Queens Park, Billericay, for Breastfeeding mums, Thursdays (term time), 12.30pm.

■ Learn to paint in Water Colours in Hadleigh with tutor Trevor Shaw. For more info call 01702 558282.

■ George Hurd Centre, Basildon, for the over 50's. Crafts 10am-12pm, £2 01268 465854.

■ Runwell Art Club, lively friendly group of people wishing to expand their

membership every Friday 10am-1pm, £3 per session, all abilities welcome, further details Carole 01268 560005 or Paula 01268 734436.

■ Sequence Dancing, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Friday 2.15-3.15pm. 01268 465854.

■ Book Club, George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over 50s, every Friday 10-11am. 01268 465854.

■ Drama Classes, Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh, not a stage school, designed to increase children's life skills. Fridays after school, to enrol call Dina 01245 328680.

■ Bargain Box Open, Pastoral Centre, St Martin's Church, Basildon (Church walk near Marks and Spencer), every Friday 10am-noon, good quality/nearly new clothes, bric-a-brac, books, videos etc, tea/coffee, all welcome, no entrance charge.

■ Table Tennis, Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over 50s, any standard, friendly group, every Friday 11am-1pm, free parking. 07931 564105.

■ Table Tennis, St Andrew's Church Hall, Church Road, Shoebury, every Friday 2-4pm. 01702 296708.

■ Table Tennis, Markhams Chase Sports Centre, Basildon, every Friday 2pm, £2.50 per session.

■ Modern Sequence Tea Dance, St James' Church Hall, Elmsleigh Drive, Leigh, Fridays 1.30-3.45pm, details Henry 01702 293794.

■ Stone Carving, Sculpture plus Lettering, Studio Workshop, 39a West Road, Shoebury, professional tuition, traditional tools, Fridays 8-10pm, details Jim Davis 01702 292867.

■ Evening of Clairvoyance, St Edmunds Hall, St Edmunds Street, (off Pantile Avenue), Southend, Fridays 8pm, healing from 7pm.

■ Clairvoyance, Hockley Old Fire Station, Southend Road, Hockley, (next to Spa Pub), visiting mediums, Fridays 7.30-9.30pm.

■ Southend Chess Club, Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, The Old School House, Southchurch Boulevard, Southend, Fridays 7.30pm, new members welcome, beginners or experienced players. 01702 345902.

■ Chess, Cedar Centre, Castle Road, Rayleigh, Fridays, 7.30pm onwards, all ages and abilities welcome, details Derek Stockings 01268 772923.

■ Messy Play, The Hills Children's Centre, British Legion Triangle Building, High Road, Laindon, Fridays 9.30-10.45am.

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Friday 10th January at 8.00pm

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Saturday 11th January at 8pm

The Circus of Horrors

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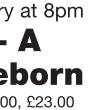


Thursday 16th January at 7.30pm

Syd Lawrence Orchestra

The Music of James Bond

Tickets: £26.00, £22.00, £16.50
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Friday 17th January at 8pm

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www.taste-of-raj.co.uk**eating out****Delights await at The Lodge**

DINERS at The Lodge Country Inn are enjoying new menus alongside a fresh new environment thanks to a major refurbishment.

The friendly, family run business situated in the heart of Essex has been given a new look including new décor, carpets, tables and chairs, following extensive work in November. With a large marquee, a Glass House restaurant serving a tasteful a la carte menu, an affordable bar menu packed with more than 100 different meals, comfortable hotel rooms and a traditional bar area, the venue really does have a little something for everyone.

Its fully licensed bar has an extensive drinks menu, comprising of a wide array of wines served by the glass, real ales, bottled and draught beers, while its large 120-seater restaurant boasts an appetising range of dishes to suit all tastes and requirements including a two-course special for £10.95 and three-courses for £12.95. The Lodge's a la carte menu is also available in its stylish conservatory offering you a spacious comfortable environment to try their five star food and enjoy a wide selection on wine served by the glass. The conservatory can be booked for special occasions and set menus can be arranged to suit a range of budgets.

The venue also boasts a large garden with an extensive seating area, bouncy castles and a children's play



area. If you want to keep the children amused whilst going out and visiting family and friends for an enjoyable meal or drink this spring and summer, then look no further than The Lodge.

Its stylish marquee, situated within idyllic country surroundings, is the perfect place for a range of special occasion for 60-200 guests, complete with a late licence until midnight. What's more, as it can now hold civil ceremonies it is the

perfect place for your big day so why not call for further information.

A delicious buffet can be supplied, as well as The Lodge's very own DJ, friendly waitresses and bar staff, and experienced Wedding Planners are on hand to guide and help you arrange the wedding you have always dreamed of right down to your individual budget.

Special events are celebrated at The Lodge throughout the year,

with the help of delicious set menus so you and your loved ones can enjoy your day in a traditional and relaxed atmosphere.

Tribe Nights, Family Fun Days and other events will also be coming up throughout the year so keep an eye out on its website so you don't miss out on all the fun. These include a Spanish Night in its restaurant on Friday, January 24, for which anyone interested is urged to call for further information.

This is all on top of great weekly family entertainment, from Karaoke nights on Sunday to Hugh Rainey's Jazz band every Tuesday. Live bands also provide the entertainment on the last Friday of every month with free admission, during which there is currently a special drinks promotion, and there is a trivia/music quiz night every alternate Wednesday, so join The Lodge for the best in live entertainment. Graffiti will be the featured band on Friday, January 31, while Scooby will appear on Friday, February 28, and Beagles on Friday, March 28.

The Lodge's next Trivia Quiz Night will be held on January 8 and its next Music Quiz Night will be held on January 15. There is definitely something for everyone to enjoy at The Lodge so find out more by calling friendly and helpful staff on 01245 320060 or visiting www.lodge-inn.net

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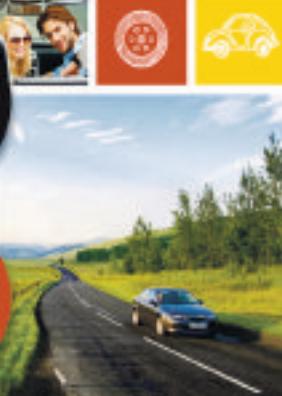
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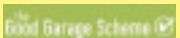
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Public Notices

THE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

(MILTON AREA PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME (ZONE M))
(WAITING RESTRICTIONS, PARKING PLACES AND PERMIT PARKING ZONE)
ORDER 2012 (AMENDMENT NO. 1) ORDER 2014

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Southend-on-Sea Borough Council proposes to make the above Order under Sections 1, 2, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 47, 49, 53 and 124 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act"), as amended and part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act.

The general effect of the Order will be to amend the existing order by taking into account the revisions below and minor amendments to the preamble of the Order.

- To increase the boundary of the Milton Area Parking Management Scheme (Zone M) to include both sides of Gordon Place, Gordon Road, Napier Avenue and Queens Road (between Ashburnham Road and Gordon Road) and one side of Elmer Avenue.
- To amend the current Pay and Display Bays in Elmer Avenue, Gordon Road and Napier Avenue to Shared Use Parking Bays (Residents Parking Bays & Pay and Display Parking Bays).
- To make layout changes and increase the number of Residents Parking Bays in the following roads: Ashburnham Road, Gordon Place and Park Street.
- To amend the size of Resident's Parking Bays in Park Street and Princes Street.
- To amend 2 No. Residents Parking Bays on the North side of Hamlet Road and relocate them to the South side of the road.
- To amend current Pay and Display Bays in Queens Road to a Residents and Business Permit Holders Parking Bay and a Loading Bay.
- To amend the current Resident Parking Bay in Ashburnham Road to a Business Parking Bay.
- To remove existing Double Yellow Lines on the East Side of Princes Street between Queens Road and Hamlet Road and the inclusion of a Single Yellow Line.
- To remove the existing Motorcycle Parking Bay in Gordon Road.

A copy of the proposed Order, a map showing the roads to which the Order relates and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be inspected at the Contact Centre on the ground floor of the Civic Centre (address below) during normal office hours and on the Council's website.

Any representations to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be sent in writing to the Corporate Director for Place and marked for the attention of the Traffic Management & Road Safety Team at the address below by no later than 29th January 2014

All written representations received concerning Traffic Regulation Orders are public documents that may be inspected by any person on demand.

R. Tinlin,
Chief Executive & Town Clerk

Dated: 1st January 2014

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 17

Notice is hereby given that on 20 December 2013 **Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC** applied to Southend on Sea Borough Council for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of premises **M Local**, 101 Ness Road, Shoeburyness SS3 9DA. The proposed licensable activities are the sale by retail of alcohol from 0600 to 2400 Monday to Sunday inclusive. Any representation by a responsible authority or any other person regarding this application must be received in writing by Licensing Authority Southend on Sea Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea SS2 6ZG or by e-mail to licact2003@southend.gov.uk no later than 17 January 2014 stating the grounds for representations. The register of Southend on Sea Borough Council and the record of the application may be inspected at the above address between the hours of 8.30am to 4.45pm Monday to Friday (except bank Holidays). It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5,000.

Notice of application to vary a Premises Licence under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003

Notice is hereby given that **ASK Restaurants Limited** in respect of Premises known as ASK, Unit 7-8 The Broadway, London Road, Southend on Sea, SS1 1TT applied to Southend on Sea Borough Council for a Variation of a Premises Licence. The proposed variation is: To vary the layout of the premises in accordance with plans submitted by the applicant. All other licensable activities, permitted hours and opening hours to remain as existing.

Any representations regarding the above-mentioned application must be received in writing by Licensing Authority, Southend on Sea Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea, SS2 6ZG no later than 27 January 2014 stating the grounds for objection. The register of Southend on Sea Borough Council and the record of the application may be inspected at the above address of the council, given above, during normal business hours or on the council's website - www.southend.gov.uk.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5,000.

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HURST EQUALISER SALVAGES POINT

Southend United

Southend United 1 Rochdale 1
Sky Bet League Two

By Rowland Lyons at Roots Hall
SOUTHEND had to be content with a point after Kevan Hurst's first-half stunner cancelled out Jamie Allen's fine early opener on Friday night.

Despite a lively start with the recalled, Will Atkinson, testing Josh Lillis, the Blues fell behind on 14 minutes when youngster, Allen netted with a precise, left foot curler after the home defence had failed to clear an Ian Henderson drive.

Dale went on to dominate and Luke Prosser appeared to suffer a head injury on 20 minutes when clearing under pressure from Preston loanee, Graham Cummings after Michael Rose had swung in a free-kick.

Southend – with five in midfield – were finding Rochdale a hard nut to crack and it was the visitors who could consider themselves unlucky not to double their lead on 31 minutes when a brave, double Prosser block first denied Hogan and then put his body on the line to deny Henderson. The stopper was reportedly taken ill at the break and had to be replaced by Mark Phillips.

With time running out, Daniel Bentley's long punt was helped on by Barry Corr and Michael Timlin into the path of Hurst, who netted his eighth goal of the season with a fine finish that Lillis could probably have done better to block.

Southend – buoyed their leveller – briefly threatened straight after the break – but Corr's lofted effort was well wide and Rochdale – only one place below the Shrimpers – contin-



Kevan Hurst equalises for Blues

Photo by Davie Montier

ued to ask all the questions and should have restored their lead with Michael Rose and former loanee, Matt Lund, wasting good opportunities.

In worsening conditions, and with chances at a premium, Southend could have nicked a late win, but Corr shaved the Rochdale crossbar with a header six minutes from time, to leave boss, Phil Brown, admitting: 'I thought a point was the right result as I knew Rochdale's work rate is good, as they are in the same place as us in the table. But, almost in the pursuit of winning, we almost lost it as we were playing football in the wrong areas. The best place to play football is in their box and I just thought we could do a little better'.

Goalscorer, Kevan Hurst said: 'The character of the boys is top-drawer. We went a goal down, but we did well to get something out of the game. I am very pleased with the goal. Fortunately, I have dropped to

Luke Prosser showed with a stop on the line to keep us in it and the other was that bit of 'magic' Kevan Hurst is possessing and he took his goal well. The conditions didn't suit a game of football, but I thought both sides coped well'.

Dale boss, Keith Hill, added: 'It was a tough game, tough conditions and a tough two-day journey and we showed our mettle and mentality and I believed if we had scored a second goal, we would have won the game. We had to weather a bit of a storm in the second, but their equalizer was a bit fortunate. However, I am pleased to come away from Southend with a point'.

Goalscorer, Kevan Hurst said: 'The character of the boys is top-drawer. We went a goal down, but we did well to get something out of the game. I am very pleased with the goal. Fortunately, I have dropped to

me and I managed to get a shot in past my old team mate, Josh Lillis'.

Eight-goal Hurst concluded: 'We are going into the next few games with the belief we can win – and we must have that if we want to get promoted'.

■ Southend travel to AFC Wimbledon on Boxing Day (kick-off 3pm) and make the long trip to Accrington Stanley this Sunday (kick-off 3pm).

SOUTHEND UNITED: Daniel Bentley – John White (captain), Rob Kiernan, Luke Prosser (Mark Phillips 46), Ben Coker – Kevan Hurst, Ryan Leonard (Cauley Woodrow 56), Michael Timlin, Will Atkinson, Anthony Straker, Freddy Eastwood – Barry Corr. Subs (not used): Paul Smith (gk), Marc Laird, Adam Thompson, Conor Clifford.

ROCHDALE: Josh Lillis – Joe Rafferty, Ashley Eastham (Peter Cavanagh 70), Ollie Lancashire, Michael Rose – Jack O'Connell, Matt Lund, Jack O'Connell, Jamie Allen – Ian Henderson (Matt Done 78), Scott Hogan (Peter Vincenti 73). Subs (not used): Rhys Bennett, Bastien Hery, Robbie Thompson, Joe Bunney.

Southend fall short at Shelford in strong wind

Rugby

Shelford 16 Southend 10

THE first game of the second half of the season took Southend to Shelford. They had beaten their neighbours and rivals Cambridge last week.

The expected rain did not materialise and the pitch was reasonably firm. However, there was a strong breeze in Shelford's favour for the first half. They capitalised on it when they were awarded an early penalty fifty meters out and Elliot Bales long range kick sailed over. 3-0.

Southend were looking contained and committed and forced a penalty of their own, Bradley Burrs terrific kick against the wind sailed into touch a few meters short of Shelford's try line. Harry Hudson caught the ball in what was to be the first of a match long series of good lineout play from Southend. Gathering the ball in he became the fulcrum of a determined Southend drive that took them over the line for prop Todd Bailey to touch down. Burr judged the wind perfectly with his conversion kick. With only seven minutes gone it was 3-7 to Southend.

Play continued with Southend trying to exert themselves against some determined Shelford defence as they successfully slowed play down whenever they could and fought at every break-

down to disrupt Southend distribution. So much so that eventually Southend scrum half Lee Sandberg put his boot into a ruck to try and release the ball. Unfairly, judged youthful referee Craig Maxwell-Keys from Cambridge and yellow carded him for foul play.

The next ten minutes saw Shelford trying to take advantage as they stormed forward at every opportunity. Southend did their best to resist but were undone as Mr Maxwell-Keys ran between the posts to award a penalty try. The easy conversion put Shelford back in front at 10-7.

Sandberg came back on and apart from a successful penalty kick from Southend's Bradley Burr to level the score at 10-10. The rest of the half became a bit mundane with Southend obviously looking to wait for the second half and wind advantage to go ahead and win the game.

Shelford had other ideas though and it became obvious their plan was to deny Southend possession and that they did. Southend rarely saw the ball for the first 20 minutes of the half and when they did they either kicked it away or were penalised.

They became more and more frustrated with the way the game was developing and became even more so when the referee showed his second yellow card, again to a Southend player. This time it was back row Jackson for slowing play

down. The subsequent penalty kick put Shelford back in the lead at 13-10.

Bradley Burr did have a chance to level things but his kick from a rare Southend penalty sailed wide. Almost immediately Shelford were awarded another penalty in front of the posts and Burr nailed the kick. 16-10 with twenty minutes to go.

Back to full strength Southend still believed they could win this frustrating game and they piled forward. Having been awarded a scrum from a Shelford knock on they won the ball and kept it in at the back as they heaved their way forward.

The Shelford scrum half threw himself on the floor alongside the scrum and stuck his hand in to disrupt the drive. The referee was on the other side of the scrum, but the touch judge was only yards away. Southend players and supporters were unhappy and even the Shelford supporters were surprised when no call materialised. The ball came out loose and was retrieved by Shelford.

Minutes later Southend broke away and exchanged passes down the wing for Danny Cleare to touch down. Their joy was short lived as the touch judge decided the final pass went forward.

Not deterred they continued to press forward until they were five meters out. Another cynical slowing down offence from a Shelford player led

Football

Matches hit by weather

Non-league round up by Brian Jeeves
THE inclement weather took its toll on the local football scene with a number of games falling by the wayside.

In the Skrill Conference South, Concord Rangers game with Havant & Waterlooville and Chelmsford City's visit to high flying Eastleigh were both casualties of the wet conditions, and it was little different in the Ryman Premier division as Billericay Town, Grays Athletic and AFC Hornchurch were also frustrated by cancellations.

However, Canvey Island's trip to Kingstone went ahead. The Gulls grabbed an early lead through Harrison Chatting, but the home side hit back during the second period to win 3-1 in front of a decent crowd of 335.

Several matches in the Ryman North beat the elements. Aveley featured in the game of the day, as two goals each from Kyle Asante and Jay Leader saw the Millers recover from 2-0 down to win 4-3 at Wroxham. Thurrock picked up a useful 1-1 draw at AFC Sudbury, while there were 2-0 defeats for Burnham Ramblers, at home to Waltham Abbey, and Barking, at Cheshunt.

The Essex Senior League programme was almost completely wiped out. Only Sawbridgeworth's game with Takeley went ahead, the home side winning an entertaining encounter 2-1 thanks to a brace from Das.

Cricket

Bopara signs one-year deal

RAVI Bopara has signed a new one-year contract with the Club, which will run until the end of the 2014 season. Bopara, 28, made his debut for Essex in 2002, playing 138 First-Class matches and hitting over 8,000 runs.

The Essex all-rounder has become an instrumental player for England's One-Day squad and will be heading to Australia with Alastair Cook's squad for the upcoming ODI & T20 Series versus Australia in January.

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to another penalty. One of the frustrated Southend players made a remark to the referee, perhaps reminding him of his previous decisions following similar offences earlier, whereupon he immediately reversed the penalty allowing Shelford to clear their lines and the game ended shortly after.

A contest and result that did nothing to attract new spectators to the game particularly as the most memorable contributions were from the officials.

Next up is Redruth at home on January 4.

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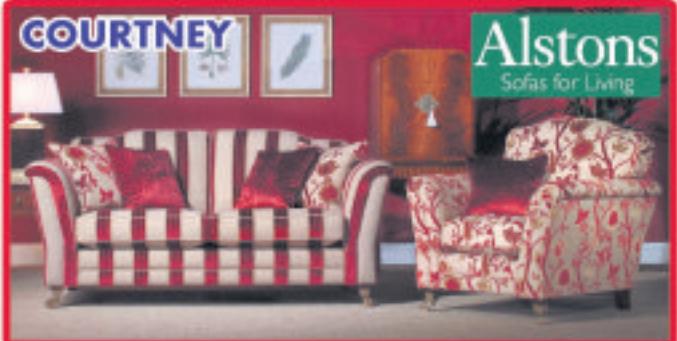
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